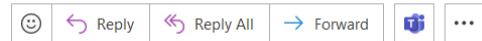


Upcoming HRW report - sexual violence against refugees in Egypt

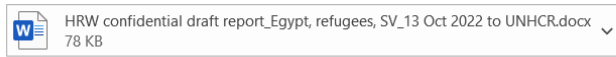


Lauren Seibert

To: Aseer T.E. Al-Madaien; Dejan Kladarin
Cc: Mahmoud Helmy; Amr Magdi



Thu 10/13/2022 5:00 PM



Dear Aseer and Dejan,

I hope this email finds you well. My colleagues Mahmoud and Amr (in copy) are working on a short report on the issue of sexual violence against refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls in Egypt, highlighting their difficulty in accessing justice. One aspect we're looking at is the extent to which rape survivors from the refugee community are able/unable to register rape complaints in police stations.

Based on testimonies of survivors and relatives, we documented cases of rape and sexual assault committed in Egypt between 2016 and 2022 against 7 Sudanese and Yemeni refugees and asylum seekers (a 13-year-old girl who was 11 at the time of rape, and 6 women, including a trans woman). Some of them experienced challenges when attempting to report the incidents to police.

Please see attached for an advance copy of the draft report. We would welcome any comments you'd like to share with us prior to publication, as well as any on-record comment UNHCR can provide on this issue (access to justice for rape survivors among refugees / asylum seekers in Egypt).

Finally, below is a list of questions for your office's consideration. We would very much appreciate if UNHCR could share any of the following information that we could integrate into our report, with reference to refugees and asylum seekers who experienced sexual violence in Egypt during the years 2017-2022:

- 1- How many incidents of rape or other sexual assault were annually recorded by UNHCR and partners (e.g. legal partners and service providers such as MSF and Care) during these years? Is there a breakdown by gender and/or age?
- 2- How many of these rape survivors were able to successfully file police reports, per year? Of these, how many cases were referred to the courts for investigations/prosecutions (if known)?
- 3- Are you aware of Egyptian police refusing to file reports of rape complaints by refugees / asylum seekers? If so, what have been the reported reasons for these refusals? (If you are aware of cases in which police refused to file reports because survivors could not provide the full names or addresses of their attackers, we would appreciate any figures or analysis you could provide.)
- 4- Does any UN agency provide trainings for personnel in police stations located in refugee communities in Cairo and Giza? If so, what do these trainings cover and is there any monitoring of the success/impact of these trainings?

Many thanks in advance. We would appreciate your response by October 23 so that we may integrate it into the report.

Best wishes,

Lauren

Lauren Seibert

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Mobile: [redacted]

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<https://www.hrw.org/topic/refugees-and-migrants>

